DOCKET NO.: BELL-0105 (01031)

Application No.: 09/888,718

Preliminary Amendment - First Action Not Yet Received

Listing of Claims:

1.(original) A method of sorting e-mail, comprising:

receiving an e-mail;

identifying whether the e-mail has a vendor registration code for identifying a vendor from whom the e-mail was forwarded;

if the e-mail has a vendor registration code, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having vendor registration codes.

- 2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of identifying whether the e-mail has a vendor registration code further comprises identifying whether the e-mail has a vendor registration purpose code for identifying the purpose of the e-mail.
- 3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein said step of presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having vendor registration codes further comprises presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having the same vendor registration code and vendor registration purpose code.
- 4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of identifying whether the e-mail has a registration code further comprises identifying the username from which the e-mail was forwarded and the source from which the e-mail was forwarded.
- 5. (original) The method of claim 4, further comprising identifying whether the username and source identify a valid contact; and

if the username and source identify a valid contact, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having a username and source identifying a valid contact.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising identifying a source category corresponding to the source identified for the e-mail; and

presenting the e-mail along with others that were received from the source category.

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7. (original) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions thereon for implementing the method of claim 1.

8. (currently amended) A method of sorting e-mails, comprising: receiving an e-mail; and

if the e-mail is from a source that is identified in a contact list, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails received from sources identified in the contact list; and

if the e-mail is from a source that is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails received from sources registered to forward e-mails.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, further comprising:
if the e-mail is not from a source that is identified in a contact list and not from a
source that is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails that are
not from a source that is identified in a contact list and not from a source that is registered to
forward e-mails.

- 10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein presenting the e-mail with other e-mails that are not from a source that is identified in a contact list and not from a source that is registered to forward e mails comprises presenting the e-mail with other e-mails from the same source category.
- 11. (original) The method of claim 9, further comprising parsing the e-mail to identify at least one of the following: a username from whom the e-mail was forwarded; a source from which the e-mail was forwarded; a vendor registration code; and a vendor registration purpose code.
- 12. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising comparing the username and source to the contact list to determine if the e-mail is from a source that is identified in the contact list.

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13. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising determining using the vendor registration code whether the e-mail is from a source registered to forward e-mails.

- 14. (original) The method of claim 13, further comprising determining using the vendor registration purpose code whether the e-mail is from a source registered to forward e-mails.
- 15. (original) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions stored thereon for performing the method recited in claim 8.
- 16. (original) A method of registering an e-mail source to forward e-mail to a user, comprising:

storing a vendor registration code for the e-mail source;

forwarding the vendor registration code to the e-mail source; and

if an e-mail is received from the source having the vendor registration code therein, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having a vendor registration code.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
storing a vendor registration purpose code for the e-mail source;
forwarding the vendor registration purpose code to the e-mail source; and
if an e-mail is received from the source having the vendor registration purpose code
therein, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails having a vendor registration code and the
vendor registration purpose code.

18. (original) A system for sorting e-mails, comprising:

a memory; and

a processor,

wherein said processor is operable to perform the following acts:

receive an indication that an e-mail has been received;

if the e-mail is from a source that is identified in a contact list, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails received from sources identified in the contact list; and

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if the e-mail is from a source that is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails received from sources registered to forward e-mails.

19. (original) The system of claim 18, wherein said processor is operable to perform the following act:

if the e-mail is not from a source that is identified in a contact list and not from a source that is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails that are not from a source that is identified in a contact list and not from a source that is registered to forward e-mails.

20. (currently amended) The <u>system</u> method of claim 19, wherein said processor is operable to perform the following act:

presenting the e-mail with other e-mails that are not from a source that is identified in a contact list and not from a source that is registered to forward e-mails comprises presenting the e-mail with other e-mails from the same source category.

21. (new) A method of sorting e-mails, comprising: receiving an e-mail; and

if the e-mail is from a source that is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails received from sources registered to forward e-mails.

- 22. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
- if the e-mail is not from a source that is registered to forward e-mails, presenting the e-mail with other e-mails that are not from a source that is registered to forward e-mails.
- 23. (new) The method of claim 22, wherein presenting the e-mail with other e-mails that are not from a source that is registered to forward e-mails comprises presenting the e-mail with other e-mails from the same source category.
- 24. (new) The method of claim 22, further comprising parsing the e-mail to identify at least one of the following: a username from whom the e-mail was forwarded; a

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source from which the e-mail was forwarded; a vendor registration code; and a vendor registration purpose code.

- 25. (new) The method of claim 24, further comprising determining using the vendor registration code whether the e-mail is from a source registered to forward e-mails.
- 26. (new) The method of claim 25, further comprising determining using the vendor registration purpose code whether the e-mail is from a source registered to forward e-mails.